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SUBJECT: ESTONIA: BURMA DONORS CONFERENCE RESPONSE

REF: STATE 53985

On May 21, we delivered reftel points to Thea Karin, Estonian MFA Burmese Desk Officer and Marje Luup, Estonian MFA Division Director for Development Cooperation. In her response, Karin shared our concern that, although the Burmese regime has taken some steps in the right direction, by only allowing in humanitarian workers from ASEAN countries, it continues to obstruct international humanitarian assistance to the Burmese people. According to Karin, Estonia agrees with the EU position that the priority at the moment must be humanitarian assistance and not reconstruction. Karin also mentioned that at the beginning of May, Estonia made a donation of USD 50,000 to the Burmese people through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Karin also stated that as the Government of Estonia has no representation in Burma, they will not be sending representatives to the conference.

DECKER